



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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**MEMBER**  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
REGULATION REVIEW COMMITTEE  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**TESTIMONY**  
**IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5394**  
**AN ACT CONCERNING SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS AND**  
**ALARMS IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.**

Public Safety and Security Committee  
March 6, 2012

Honorable Co-Chairs Senator Hartley and Representative Dargan, Honorable Vice-Chairs Senator Daily and Representative Jutila, Ranking Members Senator Guglielmo and Representative Giegler, and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 5394, An Act Concerning Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors and Alarms in Residential Buildings.

Current Connecticut statutes permit the State Fire Marshal and The Codes and Standards Committee to adopt, administer, and at any time amend a Fire Safety Code for the state of Connecticut. The current regulations in the Code are to provide for reasonable safety from fire, smoke, and panic in all buildings except private dwellings occupied by one or two families.

The underlying legislation proposes a change to the Code in that it will require smoke and carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment in all residential buildings.

On the morning of December 25, 2011, the City of Stamford suffered a tragic loss of life as a result of a residential house fire. Unfortunately, legislation cannot be drafted that would entirely prevent residential house fires; however, legislation such as House Bill 5394 takes effective steps towards preventing and limiting the loss of life should such tragic fires occur.

I support House Bill 5394 and thank the Committee for its time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, 

Daniel J. Fox  
State Representative, 148<sup>th</sup> District  
Stamford, CT